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CHAPTER 8
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Again!!
Mitsurou Kubo
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Again!!
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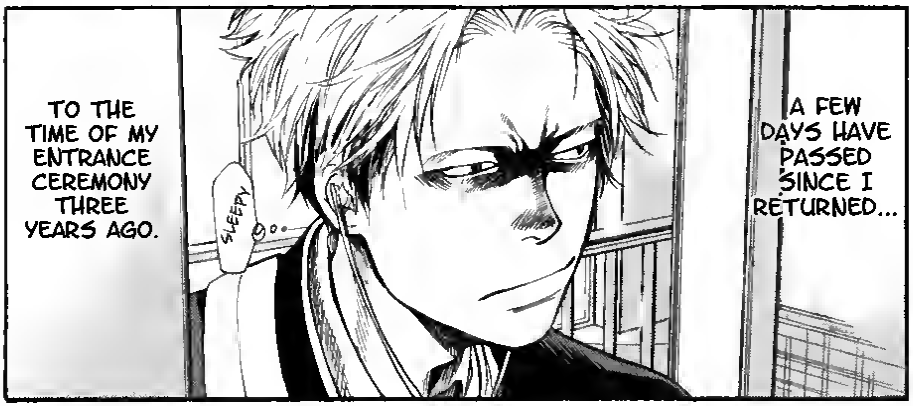
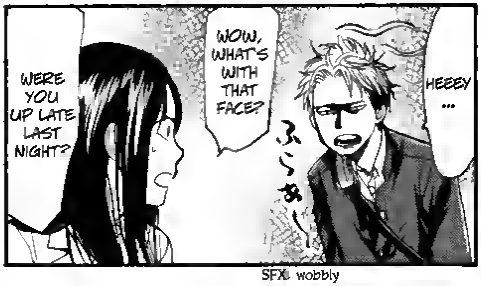
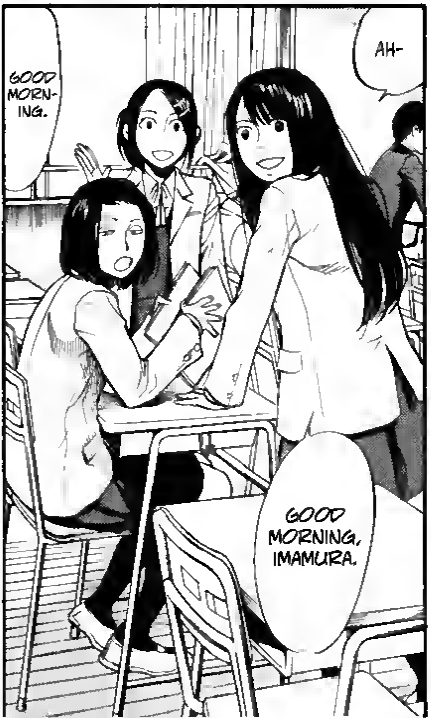
Chapter 8 Ordinary World: Tedious World

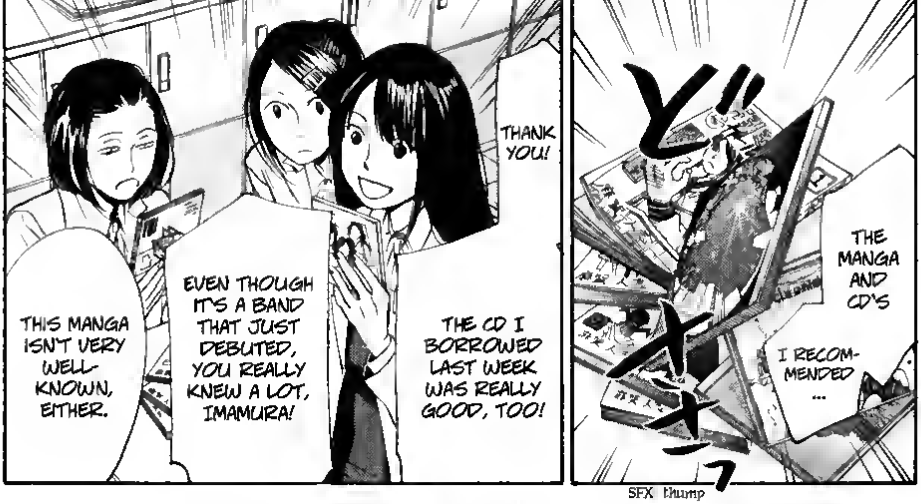


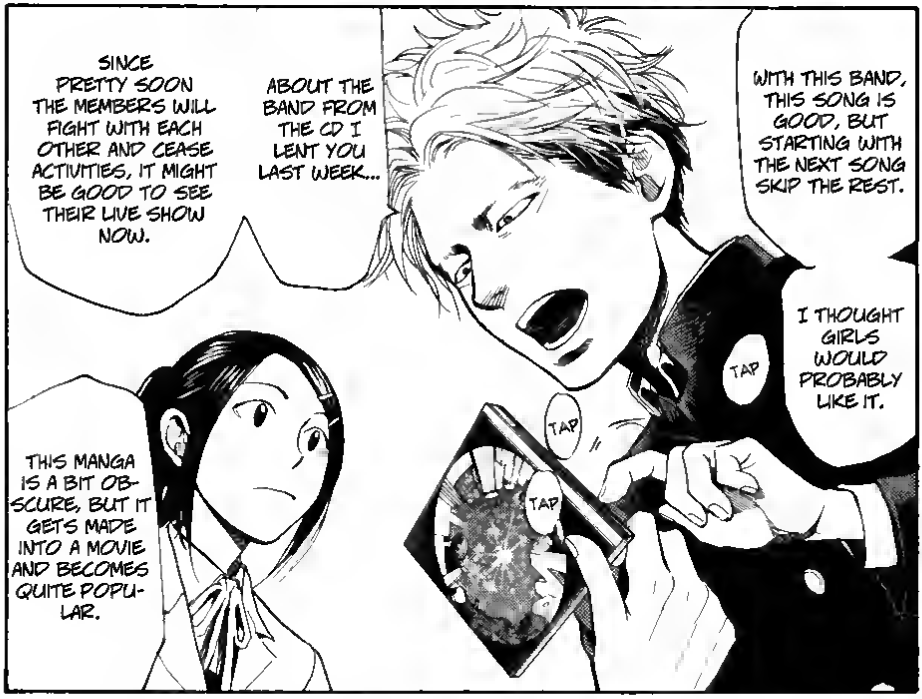


SFX: wobbly

SFX: rummage

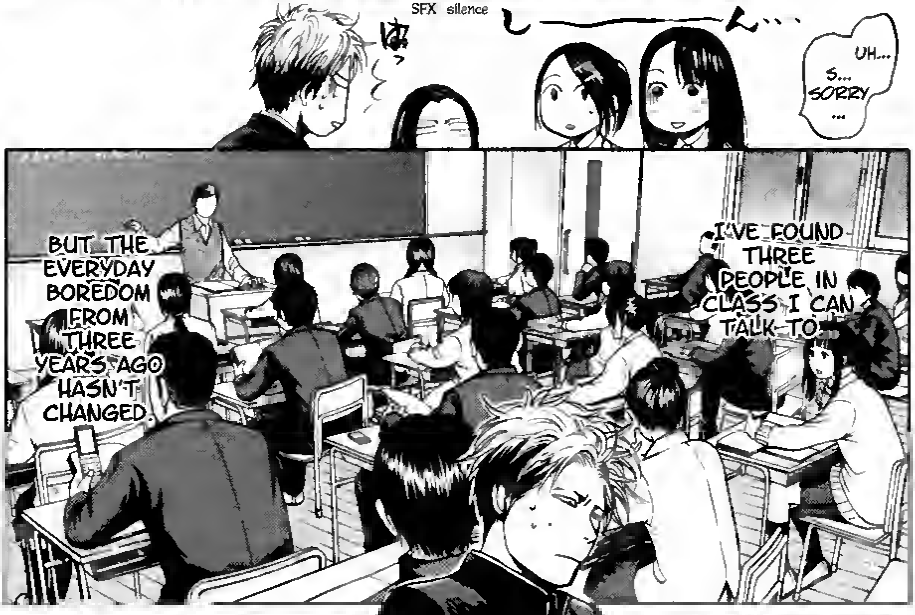


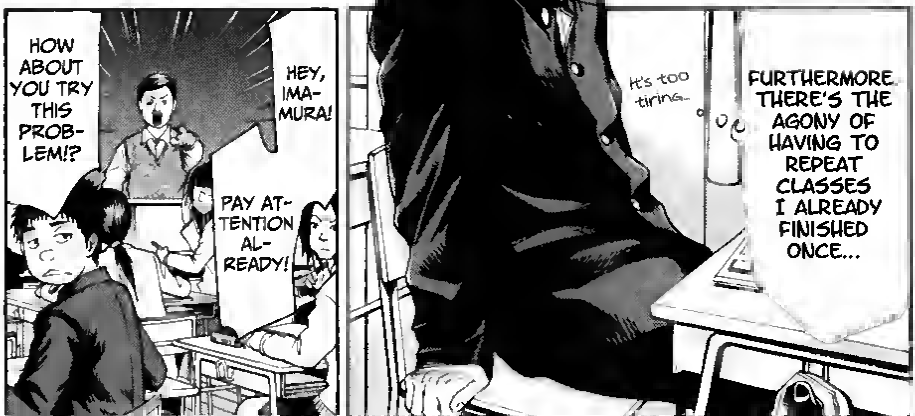

THANK YOU!
THE CD I BORROWED LAST WEEK WAS REALLY GOOD, TOO!
EVEN THOUGH IT'S A BAND THAT JUST DEBUTED, YOU REALLY KNEW A LOT, IMAMURA!
THIS MANGA ISN'T VERY WELL-KNOWN, EITHER.
THE MANGA AND CD'S I RECOMMENDED ...
SFX Dump


WITH THIS BAND, THIS SONG IS GOOD, BUT STARTING WITH THE NEXT SONG SKIP THE REST.
I THOUGHT GIRLS WOULD PROBABLY LIKE IT.
TAP
TAP
TAP
ABOUT THE BAND FROM THE CD I LENT YOU LAST WEEK...
SINCE PRETTY SOON THE MEMBERS WILL FIGHT WITH EACH OTHER AND CEASE ACTIVITIES, IT MIGHT BE GOOD TO SEE THEIR LIVE SHOW NOW.
THIS MANGA IS A BIT OBSCURE, BUT IT GETS MADE INTO A MOVIE AND BECOMES QUITE POPULAR.

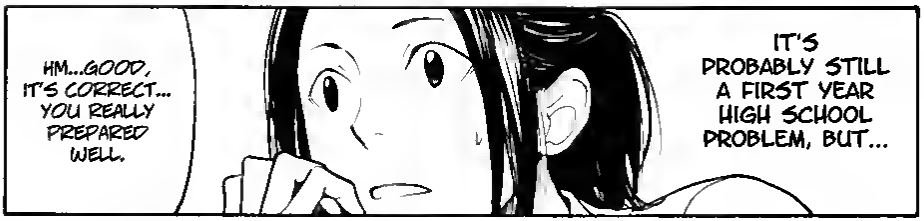
AH, I SHOULD SAY... THE MOVIE HASN'T BEEN MADE YET, BUT...
I-IT SHOULD BE A HIT, UM...
.....
IT SURE SEEMS LIKE IMAMURA REALLY KNOWS MUSIC.
YEAH, HE EVEN KNOWS IF IT WILL BE A HIT OR NOT.

SFX: glare
HOW COULD THAT BE POS-SIBLE!?
IT ALMOST SEEMS LIKE HE CAN TELL THE FUTURE, RIGHT?


SFX: silence
UH... S... SORRY...
BUT THE EVERYDAY BOREDOM FROM THREE YEARS AGO HASN'T CHANGED.
I'VE FOUND THREE PEOPLE IN CLASS I CAN TALK TO.


HOW ABOUT YOU TRY THIS PROB-LEM!?
HEY, IMA-MURA!
PAY AT-TENTION AL-READY!
It's too tiring...
FURTHERMORE THERE'S THE AGONY OF HAVING TO REPEAT CLASSES I ALREADY FINISHED ONCE...

STAND UP
YEAH
WE HAVEN'T LEARNED HOW TO DO THIS PROBLEM YET.
THE TEACHER'S JUST BULLYING HIM.
CLACK
All SFX: Click clak

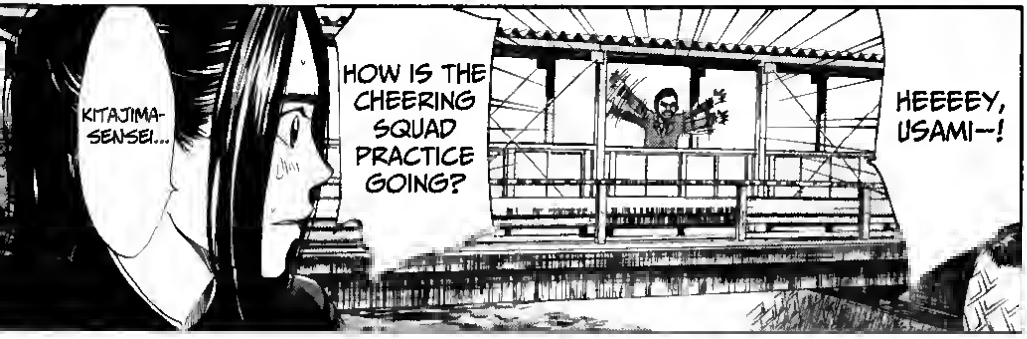

IT'S PROBABLY STILL A FIRST YEAR HIGH SCHOOL PROBLEM, BUT...
HM...GOOD, IT'S CORRECT... YOU REALLY PREPARED WELL.

HOW BORING...
IMA-MURA,
DON'T SLEEP!

VOCAL TRAINING, ONE HOUR!!
IF YOU'RE NOT LOUD ENOUGH, I'LL INCREASE IT TO TWO!!
SFX: whoosh whoosh whoosh
OSU!
OSU!
I CAN'T HEAR YOU AT ALL!
SAY IT LOUDER, FRESH-MEN!!
LOWER YOUR BACK MORE!
MORE!! YOU'RE BENDING YOUR ARM!

I UNDER-STAND.
WE'LL START PRACTICING AGAIN AFTER A 15 MINUTE BREAK.
ハア…
JUST…
EXCUSE… ME…
PLEASE… LET ME… REST… FOR… A BIT…
ME… TOO…
Huff
Puff
Huff

SFX: sigh


KITAJIMA-SENSEI…
HOW IS THE CHEERING SQUAD PRACTICE GOING?
HEEEEY, USAMI~!

SOMEHOW IT FEELS LIKE THEY'RE NOT SERIOUS ABOUT IT…
THEY DON'T SEEM LIKE BAD GUYS, BUT…
EVERYONE IS LISTENING CLOSELY TO WHAT I SAY…
IT'S LIKE THERE'S NO REAC-TION…
HMM.
……

ARE'N'T YOU WORKING THEM TOO HARD?
I'M GOING REALLY EASY ON THEM!!
WHEN I WAS A NEW SQUAD MEMBER, I ACTUALLY VOMITED UP BLOOD!
Osu!
BY THE TIME I SAID SOMETHING LIKE I WANTED A BREAK, I WAS DEFINITELY HALF DEAD ALREADY!
Osu!
SFX cough
YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY DON'T HAVE ANY GUTS!
IN MY DAY THEY WERE MORE STRICT ABOUT TRAINING SPEECH...
IT'S IMPORTANT FOR THE CHEERING SQUAD BECAUSE EVEN WHEN SPEAKING, YOUR VOICE CAN BREAK...
WE'RE STILL JUST DOING BASIC STRENGTH TRAINING, SO I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THEY'RE THIS WORN OUT!!
THERE ARE STILL A TOOOON OF THINGS THEY NEED TO LEARN BEFORE THE JOINT CHEERING PRACTICE!
HMMMMMMMMM—
JUST LISTEN TO THIS, EARLIER THEY...
AND THEN ...
THAT TOO ..
THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT BEFORE THE JOINT PRACTICE, RIGHT?
IT MIGHT BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO REMEMBER THE CHOREOGRAPHY FOR THE BASEBALL CHEERS...
THERE'S ALSO THE TAIKO DRUM...
.....

応援団
HOW ABOUT...
LETTING THOSE GUYS COME BACK?
I THINK YOU'RE DOING YOUR BEST BY YOURSELF, BUT AFTER ALL, THIS IS...
IT'S FINE!
EVEN IF IT'S JUST US,
WE CAN STILL CHEER!

IS THAT SO...
I UNDERSTAND.
WE'RE STARTING PRACTICE!
BUT IT HASN'T BEEN 15 MINUTES YET...
WE'RE STARTING!
EH...
AH, YES...
YOUR REPLY SHOULD BE "OSU!"
KANAN
—
FIGHT
!
KANAN
SFX
Go! Go!
Let's go
South!

SFX: dodon don
EVEN WITHOUT ME, THE CHEERING SQUAD IS ALREADY SAFE.
FROM HERE ON,
I'LL JUST CONTINUE ALONG THE PATH...
OF THE FUTURE I ALREADY KNOW.
SFX: don dodon
SFX: more drum beats
EVERY DAY WAS TEDIOUS.
CLANG
CLING
IN MY THREE YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL...
SFX: more drum beats
IMA-MURA-KUN...
THERE YOU ARE!!
I WAS LOOK-ING FOR YOU!
UM ... AREN'T YOU GOING HOME...?
... YEAH

IMAMURA-KUN, YOU REALLY STUDIED.
IT KIND OF SURPRISED ME HOW INCREDIBLY IMPRESSIVE YOU WERE IN CLASS AND STUFF.
...
I DIDN'T REALLY... STUDY...
SOME-HOW...
YOU DON'T SEEM MOTIVATED AT ALL, DO YOU...?
NOT REALLY...
OH...
I SUPPOSE IT'S BORING BEING AROUND ME, RIGHT?
.....
YOU'RE NOT BORING AT ALL, SHIBATA-SAN.
I'M JUST THINKING THAT HIGH SCHOOL LIFE IS BORING.
SFX: annoyed
AHHH
NOTHING TO DO.
I WONDER IF SOMETHING REALLY BIG MIGHT HAPPEN?

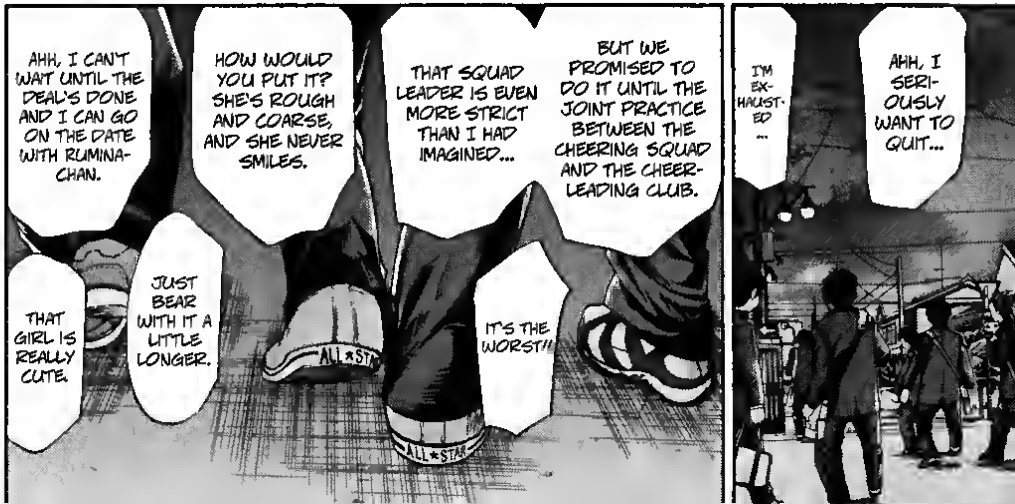
WE NEED...
TO TALK ...!
SFX: grab

UM... I'VE...
BEEN WANTING TO TELL YOU THIS FOR A WHILE...

WHAT ...?

IS IT SOMETHING SO SURPRISING?

TELL HIM EVERYTHING, SHIBATA REO!
THAT'S RIGHT!
SFX: dramatic revelation
HUH?


AHH, I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL THE DEAL'S DONE AND I CAN GO ON THE DATE WITH RUMINA-CHAN.
HOW WOULD YOU PUT IT? SHE'S ROUGH AND COARSE, AND SHE NEVER SMILES.
THAT SQUAD LEADER IS EVEN MORE STRICT THAN I HAD IMAGINED...
BUT WE PROMISED TO DO IT UNTIL THE JOINT PRACTICE BETWEEN THE CHEERING SQUAD AND THE CHEER-LEADING CLUB.
THAT GIRL IS REALLY CUTE.
JUST BEAR WITH IT A LITTLE LONGER.
IT'S THE WORST!!
ALL★STAR
I'M EX-HAUST-ED ...
AHH, I SERI-OUSLY WANT TO QUIT...

TELL ME MORE ABOUT THAT CONVERSATION JUST NOW?
HOW ABOUT YOU...
WELL, SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW.
YEAH.
SO THAT'S WHAT'S GOING O...
.....
WHAT WAS THAT LINKING ARMS JUST NOW ABOUT!?
UH... THAT WAS... UM...
DON'T CALL ME STRANGE NAMES!
THIS GIRL IS ALSO A HONEY TRAP!
EVERYTHING WAS PART OF THAT CHEERLEADING CLUB CAPTAIN'S TRAP TO CRUSH THE CHEERING SQUAD!!
SO?
YOU SHOULD UNDER-STAND.

HAVE YOUR OPENED YOUR EYES?
THERE'S NOW WAY YOU COULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE SO EASILY.
DOING THINGS LIKE MAKING FRIENDS OR COURTING THE SMARTEST GIRL IN THE SCHOOL...
I...
...I'M SORRY!
WAS ALWAYS THINKING I SHOULD TELL YOU THE TRUTH ...
BUT... I TRULY DID...
WANT TO BECOME IMAMURA-KUN'S FRIEND.
SFX: whirl around
AHH,
IT'S OK, IT'S OK.
EVEN SHIBATA-SAN HAD TO DO WHAT THAT CLUB CAPTAIN SAID AND EAT LUNCH WITH ME DESPITE HATING IT...
THAT'S NOT IT, I DIDN'T HATE IT!!

AAAHHHHH. I UNDER-ESTIMATED THIS WORLD.
ER...?
UM...
IMA-MURA?
JUST WHEN I THOUGHT I'D HAVE TO REPEAT THOSE BORING, TEDIOUS THREE YEARS AGAIN...
WHILE I WAS SPACING OUT, WITHOUT REALIZING IT...
SFX: heh heh
SOMETHING INTERESTING HAPPENED.

I CAN HANDLE ANYTHING YOU THROW AT ME! I'M ALREADY USED TO IT ALL, FOOLS!!
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE SOMEONE WHO HAS SPENT THREE WHOLE YEARS BEING IGNORED BY EVERYONE!!

I WILL NOT LET THE CHEERING SQUAD BE CRUSHED!
SFX: clang
Can I go home now?
Um
How un-cool
Wow
SFX: staying silent